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Dissertations on the Apostolic Age, reprinted from Editions of St. Paul's Epistles. By the late J. B. Lightfoot, D.D., D.C.L., LL.D., Lord Bishop of Durham. Published by the Trustees of the Lightfoot Fund. London and New York, Macmillan & Co. 1892. pp., 435, 8vo.

Not only the clergy, but everyone who is interested in early ecclesiastical history, will be delighted to have these five great dissertations of Bishop Lightfoot in such a convenient and attractive form. As excursuses appended to the commentaries on St. Paul's epistles, they were practically inaccessible to many readers and in such connections lost much of their weight and importance to the average scholar. As they now appear, carefully edited, with a full and accurate index, they are found to be not incidental adjuncts to more serious work, but elaborate and thoughtful monographs, simply indispensable to any historical library. The subjects treated of are "The Brethren of the Lord," "St. Paul and the Three," "The Christian Ministry," "St. Paul and Seneca," and "The Essenes." The first essay and the last are upon questions more strictly technical and theological; viz.: the identity of James, "the Lord's brother," and the perpetual virginity of the Virgin Mary; and the origin and affinity of the Judaic-Christian sect of Essenes, in the treatment of which latter there occurs an incidental but valuable notice of the supposed influence of Buddhism on early Christian thought. The second essay, on "St. Paul and the 'Three,'" possesses a special interest as bearing directly upon Baur's well-worn theory of the mutual hostility between St. Paul and the other Apostles, upon which the conclusions of the higher criticism of the Tübingen School was almost entirely based. This theory Bishop Lightfoot examines and disposes of with his accustomed learning, although his entire fairness is illustrated by his comments on Ritschl's "noble sacrifice of consistency to truth."

The essay on the Christian Ministry was reprinted once before in this country about twelve years ago as a sort of controversial tract to disseminate views which the author would have repudiated. In its present form it is supplemented by

various quotations from Bishop Lightfoot's sermons and other writings, giving his matured views on the threefold ministry, which he declares to be "the historic backbone of the Christian Church."

The essays are all, therefore, of permanent interest and value, but we feel that the general reader will agree with us in preferring the dissertation upon St. Paul and Seneca. Here we have something which belongs not to history strictly ecclesiastical, but which deals in a fresh, bright way with one of the most interesting periods in secular history, "the only period," Gibbon says, "when the welfare of the people was the sole object of the government." The portraits of Seneca, Epictetus, and Marcus Aurelius, the descriptions of Stoicism, the comparison of Christian with Pagan ethics, these afford the author a splendid opportunity for the display of his vast learning in sacred and classical literature, and also for the exercise of his great powers of keen analysis and exhaustive criticism. The reader may miss the rhetorical fervor which characterizes Dr. Farrar's "Seekers after God," but he will rejoice in the chastened eloquence of style, the convincing accuracy of scholarship, and the profound philosophy of Dr. Lightfoot's dissertation.

The faultless typography, and the full index of this book are worthy of its contents and of the unrivalled University Press.
T. F. G.

The Death of Ænone, Akbar's Dream, and Other Poems. By Alfred Lord Tennyson, Poet Laureate. New York and London, Macmillan & Co. 1892. 16mo, pp. vi., 113.

The present volume has the interest that always attaches to the last message of a great poet to the world; but it has not the interest that attached to Browning's "Asolando." There was a wonderful pathos in the telegrams that told how the dying poet had smiled in his far-off Venetian palace when informed of the gratifying sale his volume was having. We thought of the long years Browning had had to wait before